

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-12 NSC-05 PM-05 SP-02
SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 HA-05 PA-01 /081 W
-----037761 250219Z /75

R 241530Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8041
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USNMR SHAPE BEL
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1833

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC USCINCEUR FOR POLAD USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PORG, CY
SUBJECT: PUBLIC OPINION ON VAROSHA OFFER SOLIDIFYING

REF: (A) NICOSIA 1821 (B) NICOSIA 1820

SUMMARY: WITH APPEARANCE OF COMMUNIST (AKEL) PARTY'S
CAUTIOUS POSITION ON TURKISH CYPRIOT OFFER ON RESETTLEMENT OF
VAROSHA, ALL IMPORTANT SEGMENTS OF GREEK CYPRIOT OPINION ON
THE SUBJECT ARE NOW KNOWN. ALL IMPORTANT ELEMENTS AGREE THAT
MOTIVE BEHIND OFFER WAS DESIRE TO LIFT EMBARGO. HOWEVER, ONLY
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SMALL SOCIALIST (EDEK) PARTY AND PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU'S
OWN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DP) FULLY SUPPORT PRESIDENT'S
HASTY REJECTION OF OFFER. COMMUNISTS AND RIGHT-WING
GROUPS, CONSTITUTING OVER HALF OF ELECTORATE, RELUCTANTLY
GO ALONG WITH GOVERNMENT'S REJECTION OF OFFER IN ITS
PRESENT FORM BUT WOULD PREFER TO EXPLORE IT WITH GREATER
CARE. END SUMMARY.

1. COMMUNIST AKEL PARTY FINALLY ENDED IT SILENCE ON VAROSHA OFFER THROUGH ITS NEWSPAPER HARAVGHI. IN A CAREFULLY WORDED EDITORIAL WHICH ENDORSES THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT THAT GOC IS PREPARED STUDY SUBSTANTIVE NEW TURKISH PROPOSALS SUBMITTED THROUGH UNSYG, JULY 23, HARAVGHI ADOPTS POSTURE AT VARIANCE WITH GOC LINE. THE EDITORIAL RECOMMENDS THAT GOC WORK TO HAVE DENKTASH PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO GOC IN AN AUTHORITATIVE MANNER THROUGH WALDHEIM. IN MOST INTERESTING PASSAGE, THE EDITORIAL STATES THAT GREEK CYPRIOTS COULD, WITHOUT FEAR, COUNTERPROPOSE THAT IF VAROSHA INHABITANTS CAN RETURN UNDER AN INTERIM UN ADMINISTRATION WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE OVER FINAL SOLUTION OR THE POLITICAL STATUS OF VAROSHA, THEN GOC WOULD BE PREPARED TO RESUME INTERCOMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS ON BASIS OF MAKARIOS-DENKTASH AGREEMENT. EDITORIAL CONCLUDED WITH A REMINDER THAT RESPONSIBLE COLLECTIVE HANDLING OF SUCH DELICATE MATTERS ON BASIS OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND NATIONAL COUNCIL DECISIONS WAS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE.

2. ALL IMPORTANT GROUPS HAVE NOW PUBLICLY COMMENTED ON PROPOSAL. ALL ELEMENTS AGREE THAT PURPOSE OF DENKTASH PROPOSAL WAS TO INFLUENCE CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF EMBARGO QUESTIONS, BUT ONLY SOCIALIST EDEK AND CONFIDENTIAL

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KYPRIANOU'S WON DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAVE SUPPORTED KYPRIANOU'S IMMEDIATE AND ABSOLUTE REJECTION OF PROPOSAL. CLERIDES' DEMOCRATIC RALLY (DR) PARTY RELEASED A STATEMENT JULY 21 SAYING GOC SHOULD HAVE URGED DENKTASH TO SUBMIT THE PROPOSAL OFFICIALLY THROUGH THE UNSYG AND AT SAME TIME SECURED, THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS AND IN DIRECT CONTACTS WITH CONGRESS, POSTPONEMENT OF THE EMBARGO VOTE UNTIL IMPLEMENTATION OF RESETTLEMENT OF VAROSHA RESIDENTS UNDER INTERIM ADMINISTRATION AND UNTIL REAL PROGRESS ACCOMPLISHED FOR OVERALL SETTLEMENT OF CYPRUS PROBLEM. RIGHTIST AGON POINTED OUT THAT EMBARGO WILL BE LIFTED SOONER OR LATER AND GOC SHOULD AT LEAST GET SOMETHING OUT OF ITS REMOVAL, I.E., U.S. PRESSURE ON DENKTASH TO IMPROVE HIS PROPOSALS. THEREFORE GOC SHOULD NOT "HERMETICALLY" SEAL DOOR ON DENKTASH OFFER.

3. IN RELATED DEVELOPMENT KYPRIANOU, WHO EARLIER GAINED SUPPORT OF FAMAGUSTA REFUGEE COORDINATING GROUP (REF A), WON ENDORSEMENT OF HIS REJECTION OF DENKTASH OFFER FROM THE GROUP OF 100 FAMAGUSTIANS WHO HAD PROTESTED HIS QUICK NEGATIVE REACTION (REF B). REPRESENTATIVE OF THE 100 MET WITH KYPRIANOU AND THEN SENT MESSAGE TO

U.S. CONGRESS STATING DENKTASH PROPOSAL WAS WITHOUT
SUBSTANTIVE CONTENT, SINCE IT WAS PREDICATED ON
RESUMPTION OF TALKS BASED ON UNACCEPTABLE APRIL TURKISH
CYPRIOT PROPOSALS.

4. COMMENT: KYPRIANOU NOW APPEARS TO HAVE WON
GRUDGING APPROVAL FROM ALL ELEMENTS FOR HIS REJECTION
OF THE VAROSHA PROPOSAL. HOWEVER, A SMALL MAJORITY OF PUBLIC
OPINION (AKEL, DR AND OTHER RIGHTISTS) SEEM TO BELIEVE
GOC SHOULD SEEK WAYS TO IMPROVE ON CURRENT OFFER.
END COMMENT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAND SETTLEMENT, VAROSHA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NICOSI01833
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780304-0231
Format: TEL
From: NICOSIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780727/aaaaawwn.tel
Line Count: 127
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9232f96d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 NICOSIA 1821, 78 NICOSIA 1820
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1908069
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PUBLIC OPINION ON VAROSHA OFFER SOLIDIFYING
TAGS: PGOV, PORC, CY
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9232f96d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014